

Did you know...



Children love to learn about and explore the world around them. Information or nonfiction books are one way they can do this. Information books contain photos or drawings that show animals, vehicles, people, etc. that help them make connections to what they see and hear. Information books also introduce children to a lot of words that will help build their vocabularies. Knowing many words will help your child recognize and understand written words and language when it is time to learn to read.

Some information books have more words than young children can sit and listen to. It is okay to look at the pictures and talk about them, or read the main text on the page without reading all of the words. Young children like to point to things that interest them, so take that as a clue about what to spend time on while you read information books.



Here's how...



- ❖ Create a book that has pictures of family, friends, and pets by using a photo album, scrapbook, or gluing pictures onto sheets of paper. Write each person's name next to their picture and let your child look at it often to learn familiar people's names.
- ❖ Check out books from your local library about the things your child is interested in. Is it cars, dogs, or balls? You can search by topic in your library's catalog for the things your child loves.
- ❖ Information books can teach concepts such as numbers, colors, shapes, opposites, etc. It is good for your young child to be introduced to these concepts so they are familiar with them when they go to school.

Read



Look and Learn: Same and Different, by National Geographic



Babies and toddlers love photographs, so what better way to teach "same and different" than pictures of things in their world? Ask your little one questions such as, "Which pair of socks is different?" and "How are they the same or different?" This book is from a series by National Geographic that explores different concepts that young children should learn before entering school.



Choosing Books



More informational books...

Hands Are Not for Hitting, by Martine Agassi



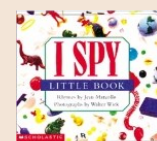
My First Signs (Baby Signing), by Annie Kubler

Global Babies (Global Fund for Children Books)

Bright Baby Touch and Feel Baby Animals, by Roger Priddy

Families (Babies Everywhere), by Star Bright Books

I Spy, by Jean Marzollo (series)



Talk



Create a matching shape game by cutting out large basic shapes from craft foam sheets or cardboard. Trace around the shapes onto a piece of paper. Have your child place the cut-out shape onto the matching shape on the paper. Say the name of the shape as they make a match.

Write



Give your child squeeze toys to play with. As they squeeze the toy it helps strengthen fine motor skills which will prepare them for writing. It also creates links to the motor areas of the brain.

Play



Popcorn

One little kernel, *(hold up one finger)*
Sleeping in the pot, *(head on hands, eyes closed)*
Turn on the heat,
(pretend to turn switch with hand)
And watch it pop. *(clap hands 3 times)*
Popping, popping, popcorn,
(jump 3 times in place)
A crunchy treat, *(stomp on the ground 3 times)*
Pour on the butter, *(pour with hands)*
And let me eat! *(pretend to eat)*



Sing



Oh Where, Oh Where, Has My Little Dog Gone?

Oh where, oh where, has my little dog gone?

Oh where, oh where can he be?

With his ears cut short and his
tail cut long,

Oh where, oh where can he be?



To hear this song go to

<http://tinyurl.com/youtube-littledog>

At your library...



Libraries are helping young children develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills. Contact your library to learn more about STEM programs, and be sure to visit

www.stemgame.lili.org for a fun online game to play with your child!

